



Conference

RECORDED SOUND

Issues and Perspectives in Historical Sound Reproduction in Italy

- Third International Study Conference -

Turin, 10 - 11 October 2026

[CALL FOR PAPERS](#)

The Association *SOFOS – Italian Society for Studies on Historical Sound Reproduction* invites researchers, scholars and enthusiasts to submit proposals for papers to be presented at its third interdisciplinary conference. The conference will focus on the current state of research and training in the field of historical sound reproduction in Italy, as well as on modes of narration and dissemination. It aims to foster discussion on the products and processes of historical sound reproduction, including their cultural and evolutionary dimensions, spanning activities from collecting and independent research to academic scholarship and socio-cultural dissemination. In this context, the conference will address the following topics through presentations, papers, and a round-table discussion:

CATALOGUING:

- The need to develop shared cataloguing standards
- The compilation of discographies that are as consistent and homogeneous as possible

CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION:

- Techniques for the conservation and restoration of historical sound materials (e.g. musical and theatrical genres, folk music, speeches by prominent figures) preserved through early sound recording and reproduction technologies

MUSICOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY:

- A survey of academic and non-academic research in Italy on early sound reproduction (late 19th to mid-20th century)
- A critical reflection on the processes and socio-cultural implications of this phenomenon, from both historical and contemporary perspectives

Types of participation

1. Presentation: oral presentation of up to 20 minutes, with or without audiovisual support, followed by 10 minutes of discussion
2. Short Paper: oral presentation of up to 15 minutes, with or without audiovisual support

Submission of proposals

Proposals for presentations or short papers must be submitted in the form of an abstract, written in a Word file (.docx), with a length of between 200 and 300 words of an abstract (200–300 words), in a Word file (.docx). At the end of the abstract, authors are asked to indicate briefly which of the above topics their proposal addresses. A short Curriculum Vitae (approximately 150 words) must be attached.

The file should be named using the author's surname and first initial, the type (1 for presentation, 2 for short paper) and an abbreviated the title (e.g. *rossim_1_zonofono.docx*).

The official language of the conference is Italian; however, proposals for papers in English are also welcome.

Submission and Deadlines

Proposals must be submitted no later than **15 July 2026** to: sofos.direttivo@gmail.com

Proposals will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee on the basis of quality, relevance and originality. The Committee's decision is final.

Notification of acceptance will be sent by **12 August 2026**.

Selected speakers must be up to date with their annual SOFOS membership fee. Non-members may join the Association no later than **5 September 2026**

In view of a possible publication of the conference proceedings or a selection of papers, SOFOS may request authors to submit the full version of their contribution (Word format) by **31 October 2026**.

The Conference will take place in Turin in a hybrid format, combining in-person and remote participation. Remote participation will be reserved for speakers based abroad who are unable to attend in person. Travel, accommodation, and subsistence expenses are to be borne by the participants.

Organising Committee

Sergio Alfonsi, Simone Calomino, Giuliana Fugazzotto, Mauro Gioia, Anita Pesce.

Scientific Committee

- Sergio Canazza, University of Padova
- Giuliana Fugazzotto, President, Sofos
- Cristina Paulon, AudiInnova, Padua
- Anita Pesce, Sofos Board Member
- Marcello Piras, University of Puebla (Mexico)
- Angelo Pompilio, University of Bologna
- Niccolò Pretto, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano